(d) if not, whether it would be done, if requested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The LTC facilities to Central Government employees were suspended as a part of expenditure management. There is no proposal under consideration to restore it.

Right to Information Bill

†985. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bill related to Right to Information to common citizen is pending for a long time;

(b) if so, when the decision was taken to pass the Bill; and

(c) whether Government would bring the said Bill for consideration and passing in the House during the present Monsoon session?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) With a view to introducing greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies, Government had introduced the 'Freedom of Information Bill, 2000' in the Lok Sabha on 25th July, 2000. The Bill, as introduced in the Lok Sabha and pending therein, was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination and report thereon. The Standing Committee presented its Report to both the Houses of Parliament on 25th July, 2001. The recommendations made by the Committee in its Report have been examined and efforts are being made to bring up the Bill for consideration of the House at the earliest.

Corruption in Government Departments

†986. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Vigilance Commission has identified hundred of departments of various Ministries as areas of corruption;

(b) if so, the names of such departments;

(c) whether Government have so far taken any effective steps to make the functioning of these departments corruption-free; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has not identified any Department of the Government as area of corruption.

(c) and (d) The Government is fully alive to ensure the corruption free functioning of the Government Departments. Polices in this regard have been formulated and constantly monitored for their effective implementation. Necessary modifications are also carried out from time to time in order to make them more effective and responsive to the needs of a changing environment. The Government has also set up Information and Facilitation Counters (IFCs) in various Ministries/Departments to provide information regarding procedures and schemes of concerned organizations to ensure greater transparency and for eliminating corruption. Besides, the Secretary of the concerned Department, assisted by Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), is made responsible for ensuring probity and integrity in that Department.

Efforts by IAS officers to get posted abroad

987. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 21st June, 2002 and 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated the 2nd July, 2002 regarding efforts of IAS officers to get posted themselves in India Tourism offices abroad;